

As a Member of Congress, the hardest thing we have to do is to comfort families when they have lost a loved one in a time of war. My heart goes out to the family.

But Jeffrey did not die in vain. He was part of something greater than himself. He was on a mission for freedom and liberty, on a mission to liberate the world from the scourge of terrorism.

My father, a World War II veteran, was part of what we now call the Greatest Generation. Jeffrey is now part of a new great generation of heroes.

His life embodies what we see in the Gospel of John, Chapter 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Jeffrey, you are home now with God. Well done, good and faithful servant. May God bless you and may he hold you in the palm of his hand.

I would like to close with a quote from Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address, which I read to the family the day of the homecoming. His words are as timeless today and relevant as they were so many years ago, when he said, "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth."

God bless you, Jeffrey.

HONORING GARY WAYNE COLEMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I learned of the passing today of actor Gary Wayne Coleman. Although short in stature, Gary stole the hearts of American viewers with his humor and his infectious smile. He lived his life with a spunky sense of humor.

Coleman was born in Zion, Illinois. He was adopted by Edmonia Sue, a nurse practitioner, and W.G. Coleman, a forklift operator. He suffered from a congenital kidney disease which halted his growth at an early age, leading to his small stature.

Gary was best known for his role on "Diff'rent Strokes." He was cast in the role of Arnold Jackson, where he portrayed a child adopted by a wealthy widower. The show was broadcast from 1978 to 1986 and was a huge success.

At the height of his fame on "Diff'rent Strokes," he earned as much as \$100,000 per episode. Gary also appeared on "The Jeffersons" and on "Good Times." He also appeared in a 1978 pilot for a revival of "The Little Rascals," as Stymie.

His life was tough after he was off the small screen and the large screen. He struggled, but he won the attention of the world as an actor. I want to join with his family and the rest of his fans and those who admired and loved him and extend my condolences to his family, his friends, his fans and those that he worked with throughout his career.

We all mourn the passing of Gary Wayne Coleman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HOLT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AMERICAN JOBS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this has been a whirlwind of a week, and I believe it is more than appropriate to summarize for the American people the real work that has been done, the triumphs, the challenges, but also the admitted courage of those who recognize that without heavy lifting, this country may not have been explored and stretched to the far reaches of the west coast, where many who traveled beyond the original settlements went West, young man, courage of Americans. This country would not have been great had Abraham Lincoln not stood up to a divided Nation, spoke against the evils of slavery, and unified this Nation.

Although we have traveled a rocky road in the 20th century, moving to ensure the equality of all persons through the civil rights movement and women's movement, there have been many women of courage who made America different and better. I am grateful today that we left this place having voted on the American jobs bill that will provide for small businesses, that will create summer jobs, that will stop the moving of jobs overseas, that provide for the closing of tax loopholes, that provide for the physicians who nurture us, provide for our families, and it will create jobs.

A position I have taken is on an amendment that I have written that would allow those unemployed to receive training and stipends without losing their unemployment insurance. Oh, yes, Mr. Speaker, we have work to do. I ask the governors of our States to stand up and be heard and provide for the FMAC, the Medicaid that is so much needed. I will fight with you. Of course, we need to work on the COBRA.

But what we have done is to provide for jobs. Then we have said to the men and women of the United States military, we believe in you, providing for more benefits, more quality of life support for their family, more posttraumatic stress disorder counseling, providing for counseling of civilians that might have suffered a violent act on a military base such as those in Fort Hood—and an amendment that I offered will support it—provided opportunities for small businesses to do business with the Defense Department.

To stand up for justice, to stand up for a young man by the name of Ensign Provo who lost his life because of his sexual orientation and the ugliness of hate, I believe we did the right thing in eliminating Don't Ask, Don't Tell, because the men and women in the United States military are well aware of what justice is all about. They are well aware of what political grandstanding is all about. They are well aware that this amendment will only move forward after we have scrutinized your opinion.

Thank you to the men and women who are courageous enough to send us home, along with my own vote, to say to those who are an American in need that we believe in you and have fought for you.

I close by thanking my beloved mom and acknowledging that her teaching gave me the grounding to be able to say that all men and women are created equal. She is no longer here, but I truly believe teachings of our mothers and fathers have always brought us to the higher calling of being able to help all people.

On behalf of myself, my brother and our extended family, we are grateful to all who expressed their concerns. I just believe, with all seriousness, that what we must do is continue to help people to make their lives better and to change America for the best.

I think we have got the best constitutional institution of democracy the world has ever seen, and that is the United States Congress. As we disagree, we still uphold this flag and the Constitution of the United States of America. We have now been sent home with a great amount of bounty for the American people and those who are in need, and we have gone home to say thank you to the men and women in the United States military and to acknowledge and to appreciate and to honor those who have fallen in battle.

May God bless you as God blesses America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)